(iii) Work for the setting up of the National Institute of Intellectual Property Management at Nagpur has commenced.

(iv) E-filing of Patent applications has been made operational with effect from 20th July, 2007.

(v) Seminars/Conferences/Workshops at national and international level have been organized for creating awareness and promotion of Intellectual Property Rights.

(vi) Memoranda of Understanding have been signed between India and Australia, European Patent office, France, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and United States of America for cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.

(vii) To further strengthen and upgrade the Intellectual Property Offices, the Government has launched a scheme in the Eleventh Five Year Plan for Modernisation and Strengthening of Intellectual Property Offices at an estimated cost of Rs. 300 crore.

(viii) The measures taken by the Government enabled the Indian Patent Office to be recognised as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty of World Intellectual Property Organisation and a possible accession to the Madrid Protocol for the international registration of Marks.

Scam in import of pulses

251. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scam amounting to crores in State Trading Corporation (STC) relating to import of pulses;

(b) whether matter is under investigation by CBI; and

(c) if so, what is the outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) CBI has registered an RC on 11.12.2007 against three managers of STC and two private parties in the matter of import of and sale of 30,000 MT black Mapte (Urad Whole) by STC during 2006-07 under the subsidy policy of Government of India.

(c) CBI report is awaited.

Financial concessions to export-oriented industrial units

†252. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise percentage of trade by export-oriented industrial units in the total import-export trade of the country during the last three years;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the foreign exchange earned from this trade during the said period;

(c) whether these units are getting many financial concessions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The share of Export Oriented Units (EOUs) in the total exports of the country are about 10.84%, 12.24% and 24.58% during the year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 respectively.

(b) Total foreign exchange earned by the EOUs during the year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are to the extent of approximately US $ 11200 Million, US $ 15400 Million and US $ 40060 Million (Provisional) respectively.

(c) and (d) Export Oriented Units (EOUs) are eligible for fiscal concessions which include duty free import/domestic procurement and reimbursement of Central Sales Tax (CST) on capital goods, raw materials, consumables for their production activities and corporate tax exemption on export income for a specified period.

Effect of global melt down on Indian exports

253. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which out exports have been affected as a result of global melt down;

(b) the quantum of goods exported till 31 December, 2008 giving comparative details in relation to the period ending 31 December, 2007; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to boost the exports in the wake of global melt down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Exports during the period April-December '08 had been US$ 130.91 billion as against US$ 113.48 billion during the corresponding period last year. Global financial crisis and economic slowdown, particularly of developed economies, have affected our exports, especially since October 2008.

(c) Steps taken by Government to boost exports is given in the Statement [Refer to the statement appended to the answer to unstarred Question 247, Part (c) and (d)]

Indian's anti-dumping measures

254. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India imposed the maximum measures and ordered the highest number of probes into dumping of goods from different countries, during July 1 to December 31, 2007 as per recently released report by WTO;

(b) if so, which are countries who supported India's anti-dumping measures;